

LEGISLATIVE INQUIRY.

WORK OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE.

TESTIMONY GIVEN BY MAYOR COOPER, JUSTICE SHEA, FRANCIS J. TWOMEY AND JAMES MCGOWAN.—THE CLERICAL FORCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN, THE MARINE COURT AND THE MAYOR'S OFFICE—DEBITS IN THE CHARTER POINTED OUT BY THE MAYOR.

Four witnesses were examined at yesterday's session of the Special Committee of the State Senate. Searching inquiries were made into the clerical force employed in the Board of Aldermen, the Marine Court and the Mayor's Office. Mayor Cooper pointed out what he considered to be the defects of the City Charter, and explained the duties of the Board of Estimates and Apportionment. The Committee manifested a disposition to get at the bottom facts.

FOUR CITY OFFICERS EXAMINED.

The special committee of the Senate met yesterday morning at the City Hall. All the members were present except Senator Mills. Several witnesses were called, and their examinations were conducted by Senators McCarthy and Strahan. Francis J. Twomey, the clerk of the Common Council, was first called to the stand. He said that he had been in his present position since 1875, except in 1879, when Mr. Patterson was the clerk. He claimed to be familiar with the workings of the office. He was questioned by Senators McCarthy and Strahan, and answered as follows:

What is your salary? Four thousand dollars.

What is the salary of the clerk of the Board of Aldermen?

It was not. The Corporation Council decided that that should not apply to the Mayor's office or to the Common Council.

How often does the Common Council meet?

There is a regular meeting once a week. It is occupied at times with special matters.

How often are special meetings held?

Probably three or four times a week, and more than five in a year.

What is the length of a session?

The sessions vary according to the amount of business. They probably average about two hours.

Do you have an assistant?

Yes, sir; he must attend committee meetings to prepare the report for the Board. The aldermen are also present.

What is the duty of the assistant?

He is a clerk, and an assistant engraving clerk, five assistant clerks, one assistant librarian, a messenger, an assistant treasurer, and a doorkeeper.

What is the salary of the assistant?

What is the salary of the doorkeeper?

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